The Chronicle

2002
...and beyond!

The Chronicle

Captain's Call

By Captain Nancy L. Deitch
SSC Charleston Commanding Officer

Looking at the CNO's guidance for 2002, he states, "Mission accomplishment is what we are all about — that's the main thing. To improve mission accomplishment, we have undertaken some important alignment initiatives aimed at helping us communicate better, capture efficiencies, and enhance combat readiness."

In reviewing our achievements over the past year, I find that most fall under the CNO's priority of alignment. And this better alignment helps us improve the speed and quality with which we deliver two of the CNO's other priorities — Current Capability and Future Capability. Our alignment has taken two forms: Alignment of our business practices, and sharing information and talents across the technical codes, helps us become more efficient; and physical alignment of our geographic units.

We implemented quarterly contracts reviews, addressing expiring contracts, solicitations in work, and underutilized contracts. We scheduled reviews of non-SPAWAR funded afloat and ashore installations to resolve conflicting actions and share lessons learned. On the personnel side, realignment of our geographically remote sites has been in place since October, and we are reaping benefits as codes focus on employee and business development in a single geographic area. We recently completed a Reduction in Force of nine positions at the National Capital Region office. Seven of those impacted employees were placed in other positions.

As we work to realign SSC Charleston and improve our ability to deliver *current and future readiness*, the question becomes, "How do we know we are making progress?" Within our installation efforts, we implemented *Earned Value Management*, which measures our continuing progress in products delivered within cost and schedule. SPAWAR headquarters published the first corporate annual report, a major opportunity for us to tell our most important customer — the Fleet — about our 2001 accomplishments, and meet our objective of "Speaking with one voice."

In January, the SSC Charleston leadership participated in the semiannual off-site at SPAWAR headquarters. The focus was getting us back on track thinking about strategic planning, metrics, and telling our story to the customer. Measuring our mission performance will continue to be a major focus using the Balanced Scorecard methodology. On the horizon, the headquarters command inspection team arrives in April to review the extensive Command Self-Assessment process put in place under the auspices of Cmdr. Rusty White. The result of an extensive effort by every code in the command, this is a major opportunity for us to highlight our mission performance.

On the radio, I recently heard an organization described as a "miracle of teamwork every day." That succinctly describes our progress this past year. None of our improvements was made by a single individual. Our progress is the result of dedicated teams — military, civilian and industry — working across codes to make things better. Keep charging!

SPAWAR's commander meets with all hands in Charleston

■ **"Enjoy the journey — If you're not having fun, you're not doing it right!"**
—Rear Adm. Kenneth D. Slaght

By Lynda Silvers
Chronicle Editor

"Charleston runs on its own!" Rear Adm. Kenneth Slaght, SPAWAR's commander, said to SSC Charleston employees at his first all-hands meeting with us. Rear Adm. Slaght further complimented us when he said, "SPAWAR doesn't worry about Charleston, and the fleet benefits from your efforts."

The admiral visited SSC Charleston January 8 and 9 and received several briefings on homeland security. At the all hands meeting on the morning of the 8th, Rear Adm. Slaght talked about SPAWAR's Strategic Plan and how each of us fit into that plan. "The Strategic Plan is a road map to how we want to operate," he said. It provides guidance and goals that define where we want SPAWAR to be in 2005, and a plan on how to get there. The Strategic Plan is designed to improve our mission performance; achieve our vision for the future; tell our story to our customers, stakeholders, and partners; and motivate and educate our workforce.

"When we do well, we all do well; and when we fall short, we all fall short. We are a corporation," Rear Adm. Slaght said. He challenged us to look at everything we do from a warfighter's perspective, and to ask how it will benefit the warfighter? The nature of our business is rapidly changing, and we must look daily at where we are going as the Navy's C4ISR provider. We must continually adapt and adopt those changes if we are to provide the excellent service that our customers have come to expect. We must also work together as a team.

"First and foremost," Rear Adm. Slaght said, "our customer is the fleet. If we don't look at the fleet as our number one customer, we will go out of business." The current Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Vern Clark, "listens to the fleet, and if the fleet's not happy, he's not happy," said Rear Adm. Slaght.

We also need to speak with one voice. One SPAWAR eliminates confusion. One SPAWAR means one set of quality standards, one source to call for help or information, a reduction in duplicated efforts, it puts the best team on the job, and it facilitates total capability marketing — end-to-end development, production, installation and support. Our behavior should incorporate customer referrals, eliminating duplication of effort, sharing knowledge, building teams of expertise, frequent talks with our counterparts, and doing the customer's research. "There is no them, there is only us," Rear Adm. Slaght said.

In a DBOF (Defense Business Operations Fund) environment where we have to earn our keep, bringing in money is the key to our survival. Each of us must ask what we as individuals are doing to help implement our strategic plan. It is an all-hands effort — ask yourself, "What have I done for the fleet today?"

Rear Adm. Slaght urged everyone to learn an *elevator speech* — something short and simple where you can briefly explain (i.e., during an elevator ride) what SPAWAR does. Always be prepared to market our capabilities, and know our top three priorities — current readiness, the ability of the warfighter to accomplish their mission; future readiness, SPAWAR's ability to accomplish our mission; and quality of service.

In our business, the network is everything, and we need rules to operate in that environment—rules that represent the essence of who we are and how we will work together in the future. Rear Adm. Slaght challenged everyone to keep our promises, build on integrity, be part of the team, and think — innovate and learn — always, be agile, share information, anticipate what the fleet considers as valuable, set stretch goals, see change as an opportunity, not a threat, have a passion for excellence — love what you do and hate bureaucracy — challenge rules or processes that slow execution or fail to add value, and enjoy the journey — if you're not having fun, you're not doing it right.

Please check out the interview with Rear Adm. Kenneth D. Slagt in the Fall 2001 issue of *CHIPS*. You can view it on line at http://www.chips.navy.mil/archives/01_fall/index2.htm.
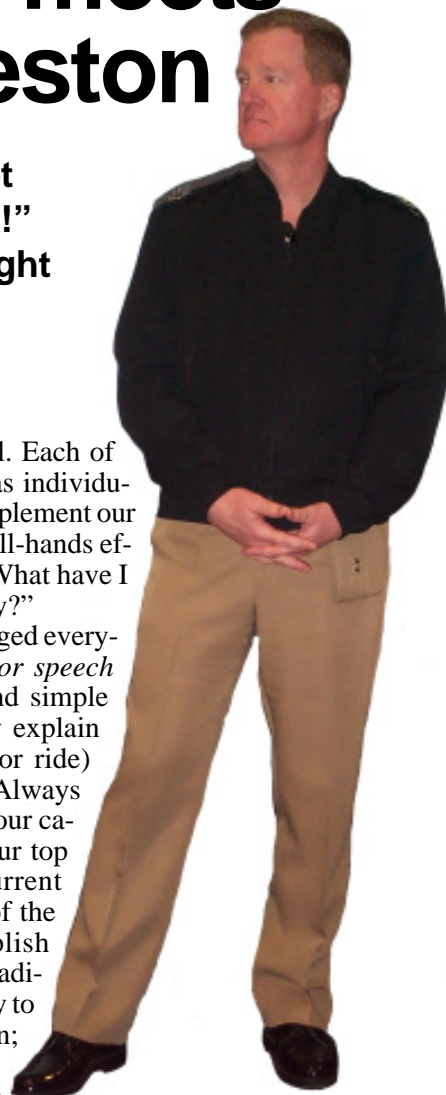
Dandridge earns Navy Superior Civilian Service Award

At the all hands meeting on Jan. 8, Rear Adm. Slaght presented the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award, along with a medal and lapel bar, to **Shelly Dandridge** for her exemplary service to the SPAWAR Command and the U.S. Navy.

As head of the Civilian Personnel Support Office (J0A2), Shelly is widely recognized and respected as an expert in personnel policies and practices. She is a superb leader and a knowledgeable practitioner with experience in all aspects of human resource management.

Shelly has served SSC Charleston and the SPAWAR claimancy with devotion and commitment. With exceptional vision and skill, Shelly leads a highly motivated and talented team of human resource professionals in providing personnel services of the highest quality.

In all aspects of her work, Shelly distinguishes herself as an extraordinary leader and public servant. Her insight, dedication, experience and energy are of great value to SPAWAR and the U.S. Navy.

Shelly Dandridge and Rear Adm. Ken Slaght, SPAWAR commander, at the all hands meeting on Jan. 8. Shelly wears the Navy Superior Civilian Service medal and lapel bar presented to her by the admiral.

Bradford and Metts earn Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Awards

Sam Bradford's meritorious performance while serving as SSC Charleston's Employee and Labor Relations Specialist from 1999 through 2001 earned him the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award. His expertise, advocacy of fairness, and patience are unparalleled — characteristics which are readily apparent to all participants who enter into a negotiation between employees and management. He facilitates solutions that meet the needs of all parties involved.

Sam is widely recognized for the depth of his knowledge and experience in the field of Employee and Labor Relations, and is frequently called upon to resolve difficult personnel management and labor relations issues. He has proven himself to be a consistently perceptive and reliable source of sound advice and guidance. His mastery of the principles of conflict resolution and expert knowledge of Civil Service law and regulations have resulted in the settlement of a number of complex employee relations issues. Sam's exceptional knowledge, objectivity, and skill are of great value to this command and the Navy. He has distinguished himself as an extraordinary leader and public servant in all aspects of his work.

Rear Adm. Slaght pins the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service medal on Sam Bradford.

Truman Metts (left) shakes hands with Rear Adm. Slaght at the all hands meeting on Jan. 8.

Truman Metts' meritorious performance while serving as SSC Charleston's Personnel Management Advisor from 1999 through 2001 earned him the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award.

As an administrative specialist in the Civilian Personnel Support Office (J0A2), Truman provides advice to all SSC Charleston employees and managers on a wide range of personnel issues. As the Injury Compensation Program Manager, he provides solutions to personnel problems that are consistent with legal, regulatory and local policies. Truman also provides input and assists in the development of HRO policies and procedures.

In every aspect of his work, Truman has distinguished himself as an extraordinary personnelist and public servant. His comprehensive knowledge of personnel laws and regulations has proven to bring high value to this command's resolution to maintain a fair and equitable place of employment. Truman's extensive recruiting contacts significantly help supervisors in identifying quality candidates for openings as they arise. He has worked tirelessly on Workers Compensation issues and gives his whole-hearted attention to all managers and employees who seek his advice.

Truman's extensive knowledge, his consistent accuracy, and his opinions are continually sought and advice gratefully heeded by managers and employees at all levels. He provides a calm voice in turbulent times and his contributions are of great value to this command and the Navy.

Abby, Uncle Sam – Team for the Troops

By Sigrid M. Eliot
Information Engineering Branch (J771), Washington, D.C.

Who could have possibly imagined the events of Sept. 11, 2001? And who could have imagined a chance teaming of our very own Uncle Sam and America's personal advisor, *Dear Abby*.

Well, that's exactly what happened in early Dec. 2001. As a result of the anthrax threat, DoD suspended the practice of sending letters and packages to American Servicemen overseas. For years, the annual holiday messages from home have been an important morale booster for our servicemen.

Realizing the void this would create, *LIFELines* and SSC Charleston National Capital Region (NCR) saw an opportunity. Why couldn't we team with *"Operation Dear Abby"* and DoD's *"AnyServicemember"* to deliver these messages of hope and caring? The technology developed by SSC Charleston NCR already existed in the Navy's *"LIFELines Service Network."* The staff at SSC Charleston NCR's Computer Information Systems Engineering Division (J77) worked with the *Dear Abby* staff to set the groundwork for the teaming of "*Abby and Uncle Sam*," and the work was completed in record time — the rest is history.

The *LIFELines Network* enabled people to send more than 250,000 support and holiday greetings to our servicemen and women overseas. In an effort to make these messages available to as many service members as possible, the *LIFELines* team developed a convenient download and printing process. The LIFELines success prompted a Navy extension of the program, and we now support the troops year-round. Visit the *LIFELines* web site at http://www.LIFELines2000.org and send the troops a message of encouragement.

Foreign visitors must process through security office

All SSC Charleston visitors who are **NOT** citizens of the United States (foreign nationals) **MUST** be approved by the Security Office (J0A1) **PRIOR** to their actual visit.

Foreign nationals are prohibited access to government computer networks WITHOUT specific approval. All foreign nationals must be ESCORTED by a military or civilian government employee the entire time they are on the Naval Weapons Station. This includes foreign nationals working for contractors who support our command, or vendors trying to sell their wares to us.

We want to help you accomplish your mission, so please notify the Security Office whenever a foreign national is expected to visit. When inviting contractors to visit you, please discuss their employees' nationalities and their citizenship status.

Contact **Jeanette Kicklighter** in the Security Office (J0A1) at 843-218-4057 to coordinate visits, or if you have further questions.

From dream to reality—

new ATC facility completed!

By Lynda Silvers
Chronicle Editor

Following up on the *Dreams really do come true!* article which appeared in the July/August 2000 issue of *The Chronicle* — that dream is now a reality. Folks in our Air Traffic Control (ATC) Systems Engineering Division (J31) and the Air Technical Services (ATS) and Engineering Division (J36) have moved into the brand new 38,783 square feet, ultra-modern Air Traffic Control Systems Engineering Center. Over 100 SSC Charleston employees, who moved from nearby *relocatable* buildings, now have a super-nice work environment.

On Feb. 20, approximately 300 people gathered outside the new facility for the official ribbon cutting ceremony. Special guests included the Honorable Fritz Hollings, U.S. Senator from South Carolina; Neil R. Planzer, executive director of the DoD Policy Board on Federal Aviation; and Rear Adm. Tom S. Fellin, vice commander of SPAWAR Systems Command.

From this new building, SSC Charleston is able to simulate an actual air traffic control environment of a naval or Marine Corps air station. And it's out with the old, and in with the new as practically all of the ATC and ATS systems have been updated and improved in the last few years — with things like smaller compact systems, touch screens, and mini-antennas. All of the systems which are installed at Navy and Marine Corps air stations worldwide, are set up — just as they will be in their actual environment — and tested in one of the various labs. After a system passes inspection, it is disassembled, crated, and shipped to its final location, where it's once again assembled, inspected, and tested.

The Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) lab, all 1,600 square feet, is amazing, to say the least. This is a simulation of where the air traffic controllers would actually sit to control traffic in their proximity. Each system has a data management track, which can indicate a potential failure, and an in-service engineering agent (ISEA) that looks at trends.

The observation tower, which is the focal point of the building, offers an awesome view of the surrounding area — 60 nautical miles of visibility. Manned only when performing actual air traffic control simulation testing, the tower provides a *live* air traffic control environment for the engineers and technicians.

Aside from the pleasant work spaces and inside and outside break areas, other amenities of the new ATC Engineering Center include: a 10,300 square feet ISEA equipment lab with raised deck, a 2,000 square feet lab dedicated to software support, 1,850 square feet of conference and training room space, 1,600 square feet of shipping and storage areas, 15,300 square feet of general office space, and 625 square feet of external equipment pads. Outside, workers are still constructing a new RF communications antenna tower, external analog and digital radar facilities.
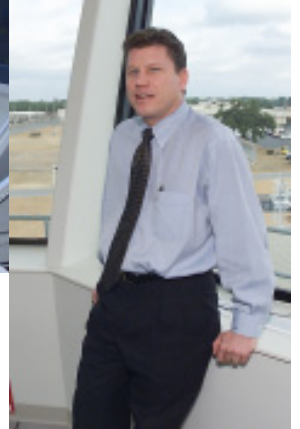
Above: In the ATC tower, Phil Braswell, J31 Division Head, and Rick DeForest (right), J31's chief engineer, talk about the advantages the new facility provides.

Left: racks of new equipment are assembled and tested in the new ISEA lab prior to installation on a Navy or Marine Corps air station.

Below: the IFR lab provides real-life simulation of an air traffic controller's environment.

Right (l-r): Deborah Young, Dave Kroth, Dusty Barrett, Matt Rushing, and Mike Peebles of the J36 division, pose with the "Ice Lady," a mannequin dressed in proper attire for Antarctic climate.

Below: Joe Ego (J311) maintains the ATC.navy.mil website for OPNAV N785.

Above: Robert Call (left) and Russ Young discuss the day's objectives.

Left: Ron Hughes (left) and Willard Pretlow assemble equipment into racks for testing.

Bates and Lowery team with headquarters and San Diego — earn Lightning Bolt Award

In 1996, SPAWAR headquarters established the lightning Bolt Award to recognize exceptional team efforts and notable accomplishments.

Britt Lowery

Our own **David Bates** (Tactical Switching Branch, J511) and **Britt Lowery** (Shipboard Exploitation Systems Engineering Branch, J714), were part of the Naval Afloat Networks General Service (GENSER) Automated Digital Network System (ADNS) Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI) Operational Test and Evaluation (OPEVAL) Team.

The team was nominated for the SPAWAR Lightning Bolt Award in recognition of their exceptional efforts in the preparation for, and unprecedented successful completion of, two simultaneous OPEVALs. With superb skill and coordination, the team of SPAWAR Systems Command, SPAWAR Systems Centers, Commander Operator Test and Evaluation Force (COMOPTEVFOR), and contractor support personnel laid the groundwork and met every requirement to achieve this significant milestone.

Team members ensured that the criteria for certification of readiness to commence OPEVAL, as contained in SECNAVINST 5000.2B, were met and subsequently presented the Operational Test Readiness Review to the Milestone Decision Authority (MDA) demonstrating that GENSER ADNS and SCI ADNS were ready for operational evaluation. The professional and detailed quality of the OTRR identified it as the standard by which other programs will be measured. Of particular significance was the decision to conduct a pre-OPEVAL of all test platforms to ensure that all ILS support was in place.

Each team member significantly contributed to the successful completion of GENSER ADNS and SCI ADNS OPEVALs, and they are commended for their professionalism, innovation, and untiring efforts as the U.S. Navy moves boldly into the 21st century.

The Naval Afloat Networks GENSER ADNS/SCI ADNS Operational Test and Evaluation (OPEVAL) Team, with the outstanding contributions of all team members from SPAWAR Systems Centers in San Diego and Charleston, COMOPTEVFOR representatives and support contractors, are hereby recognized for the successful, simultaneous completion of two Operational Test and Evaluations.

The following ADNS/SCI ADNS OPEVAL Team Members earned the SPAWAR Lightning Bolt Award in recognition of their exceptional professionalism and high level of dedication in the preparation for and execution of the simultaneous completion of two Operational Test and Evaluations of the Automated Digital Network System (General Service) (GENSER ADNS) and Sensitive Compartmented Information Automated Digital Network System.

Team members include:

Government Employees

PMW 165: Timothy Smith (Program Manager), CDR Vincent Squitieri (Deputy Program Manager), Nick Freije (Chief Engineer), Christa LeBoeuf (Assistant Program Manager), Gregory Miller (Assistant Program Manager - Ashore), Jim Hrin (ADNS Testing), Allan Oyama (SCI Networks Project Manager), and Cecilio Nazareno (Testing Director).

CNO: CTOCM Glen Voliva (N611C), CDR Kurt Menke (N912D2), and CDR Lacy Betton.

COMOPTEVFOR: CAPT Tom Frey (Code 60), LCDR Al Pepper (Code 617), CWO2 Aaronetta Stewart (Code 6334), and CTOC(SW) Frank Oblinsky (Code 6333).

SSC San Diego: Bruce Cormany (SSCCharleston PD16L4X1 – ILS Manager)

SSC San Diego (D631): Gary Cappelli, George Frederick, David Guitas, David Hayashi, Ryan Hua, John Kmet, Charlie Nguyen, Tina Nguyen, Michael Reddish, Kim Vetter, and Jim Yokomizo.

SSC Charleston: David Bates (J511) and Britt Lowery (J714).

Afloat Training Group: Mitch Crawford

Support Contractors

TITAN: Aaron Barr, Stacie Beall, Mary Beane, Rich Caruso, Jon Cherry, Bob Colley, Ed Cox, Jim Damron, Tom Edison, John Freitas, Jim Helms, Fred Hyde, Robb Jeffries, Dan Junker, Rick Koch, Jack Leonard, Neal Mills, Michael Payne, Carl Sharp, and Chris Walker.

TECHSOFT: Kurt Bernard and Mike Warner.

SAIC: Todd Bissell, Clayton Bush, Matt Castaneda, Mike Dipaolo, Ed Gruner, Les Hockman, Johnny Jardin, Bob King, Paul Kochur, Henry Leichner, Hal Leupp, Mary Masajo, Alan Paulson, Mary Fox Silva, John Skelenger, Joy Sunram, and Sean Taylor.

ISM Team's new business process paves the way for future readiness

The In-Service Management Team: (seated, l-r) Team leader Susan Butler and Larry Leverette; (standing, l-r) Ron Malec, Vince Van Houten, Joe Heustess, and Frank Bartow.

The In-Service Management (ISM) Team comprises Information Warfare Exploitation Systems Engineering Division (J71) employees **Susan Butler** (team Leader), **Joe Heustess**, **Frank Bartow**, and **Ron Malec**, and Information Assurance Engineering Division (J72) employees **Vincent Van Houten** and **Larry Leverette**.

The team developed the ISM Business Process, a comparative analysis plan which seeks ways to increase efficiency and reduce costs by consolidating and eliminating excess functions and processes. The ISM Team examined four core ISM competencies — program/financial, configuration, inventory/material, and ship alteration/installation coordination — and developed a functional matrix to identify process redundancies across Commander Naval Security Group (CNSG)/Naval Information Warfare Activity (NIWA) shore and shipboard programs.

The following elements were immediately implemented: A single ISM point of contact was established; and centralized administrative functions, standardized business practices, and minimized duplication of effort through effective resource sharing were adopted. The immediate benefit was a reduction in contractor work years, from 15 years to 2 ½ years across the four-core competency areas. This generated a cost savings of approximately $1.5 million out of a $15 million budget.

The ISM Team recognizes that the key to customer satisfaction is increasing programmatic efficiencies, improving communication, and reducing costs. By implementing the ISM process, the team determined that a cost savings and a cost avoidance were accomplished without a loss in quality. The team expects other core competency areas will be examined for consolidation in the near future.

To provide customers round-the-clock online access, the team also developed a web-based system to view all financial and programmatic information; weekly expenditure reports; and executive, financial, and programmatic summaries.

Roberson earns Air Force recognition for his 'Operation Enduring Freedom' support

Ron Price (left), from the Air Force Communications Agency at Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, presents an official commendation from the Dept. of the Air Force to James Roberson (center), while Don Bailey, SSC Charleston's executive director, proudly looks on.

James Roberson of the Law Enforcement Engineering Branch (J744) worked with the Air Force Communications Agency (AFCA) in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. James was the primary provider of specialized communications services, and has been supporting a modeling and simulation initiative of the AFCA to support acquisition, planning, and deployment of communications in a scenario or global context. Specific efforts included communication device modeling, scenario development, traffic utilization characterization, and simulation execution.

Following the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, AFCA requested immediate, on-site support to the Air Force for communication needs associated with Operation Enduring Freedom, and James left Charleston on a 30-day assignment to fulfill that request. Working around the clock with AFCA engineering personnel, James' efforts were in support of urgent and immediate needs for the deployed Air Expeditionary Wing.

Specifically, James' efforts involved rapid and timely development of communications burden assessments for South West Asia, which were accomplished using sophisticated modeling and simulation network tools.

The following NMCI-related articles were submitted by Nelson Ard, Chief Engineer, Corporate Information and Management Systems (J09B-E), and NMCI Coordinator

NMCI — and me ...what do 'I' need to know?

If you thought Y2K was interesting, wait until NMCI arrives

One of the lessons we learned from our Y2K experience was the wide and varied amount of information our project engineers and systems integrators need to access in order to serve our customers. As we replaced or upgraded computers during the millennium change, we added a large number of hard drives to help migrate to a corporate standard operating system. One of the harder challenges was to make sure the user's data moved if we had to change out a workstation. We expect a large number of workstations to be replaced when we go through cutover to the new NMCI infrastructure.

The Information Strike Force has written a document to help users prepare for migration to the NMCI environment during a period called cutover that starts about 60 days after Assumption of Responsibilities (AOR). This is called the Ready, Set, Go document under the Making Transition portion of EDS' website at www.eds.com/nmci.

Part of everyone's job prior to this period is to do a bit of housekeeping. The Ready/Set/Go group of documents from the EDS web sites asks each user to assume responsibility for their own data to be migrated. Among other things, it asks that each user create a special folder on their C Drive and deposit the files to be migrated to the NMCI

The Information Strike Force will make every effort to move your working data (documents, drawings, spreadsheets and other files) to the NMCI desktop, but you will have to tell them where they are. Start now to locate the following types of files on your desktop: Word documents (.doc, .rtf); Excel workbooks (.xls, .xlw); PowerPoint files (.ppt, .pps); mail files (.pst); archive files (.zip, .gz); text files (.txt); saved messages (.msg); and Adobe Acrobat Files (.pdf)

If you are a packrat like me, you will have a fair number of these files on your hard drive. If you want to get an appreciation for how widely scattered they may be, use the Start/Find/Files or Folders function under Windows and enter one of the file extensions above in the "Named" portion of the dialog box.

You will notice I didn't mention applications in the list above. That's because the Information Strike Force will not move any application to your NMCI seat that is not a part of the Gold Disk or the Command's rationalized, certified applications list. *If you haven't declared an application, you need to work after NMCI arrives, notify your departmental NMCI coordinator before March 1 and be prepared to develop the RFS documentation. Take this date seriously, it is a hard deadline.*

SSC Charleston on track to NMCI

By the time you read this article, SSC Charleston will be within 90 days of AOR — May 1 for locations identified as belonging to Increment 1.5 of the NMCI schedule. This date applies to seats in the Washington, D.C., Tidewater (Norfolk, Va.), and Charleston, S.C., areas. Jacksonville, Pensacola, and Mayport, Fla., and Corpus Christi, Texas, are scheduled to come in later increments. Here are the major upcoming events:

15 February 2002: Updated, rationalized list of all desktop, web-based or server applications is due through each Department NMCI Coordinator to Joe Weed, NMCI Legacy Applications Coordinator.

19 February 2002: Plant, minor property numbers and serial numbers for desktops, laptops, monitors and equipment being turned in to NMCI is due from the departments.

1 March 2002: Seat Order update is due through your department NMCI coordinator.

1 March 2002: Cutoff for any new legacy applications to be identified as part of our rationalized list. Anything discovered after this date is not guaranteed to be in place as of cutover.

15 March 2002: All Requests for Service (RFS) and media are due to Joe Weed for shipment to the EDS Certification Laboratory.

1 April 2002: All media supporting RFS documents due to the EDS testing lab

1 May 2002: AOR

1 July 2002: Cutover

A weekly conference call is held each Tuesday between all sites to identify upcoming events, share best practices, and resolve issues.

Your NMCI Team:

Here are the primary points of contact for SSC Charleston's NMCI Team.

Command Team. This team is responsible to guide the Command through the NMCI Transition, which includes rationalizing Legacy Applications and developing the Seat Order through the Departments:

Nelson Ard, NMCI Coordinator; **Joe Weed**, Legacy Applications; **Keith Story**, Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR) Office; **Dawn Hoffman**, COTR Office; **Vera Jackson**, COTR Office; **Mike Zeigler**, Information Systems Security Manager (Legacy systems); **Terry Bobola**, Material Division; **Shelly Dandridge**, Personnel Office; Wayne Pannullo, Facilities Office; and **Gail Silverman**, Legal Office.

Departmental Coordinators. These folks assemble the information required to complete the seat order, rationalize legacy applications,

and assist the departments in determining the best combination of seats and accessories.

Cindy Willard, Code 01; **Charlene Kennedy**, Codes 00/0A/etc; **Keith Story**, Code 09B; **Sally Van Horn**, Code 0E; **Don Neal**, Code 30; **Luis Celorio**, Code 50; **Jane Dingus**; Code 60; **Carol Bilbray**, Code 70; and **Vince Van Houten**, Code 70 alternate.

Field Office Representatives. These folks attend the face-to-face meetings with the local NMCI Site Delivery Manager and Site Transition Manager charged to effect the NMCI transition at the local level: **Debbie Hasty**, NCR primary; **Kenneth Atkinson**, NCR secondary; **Shannon Gunn**, Patuxent River, Md.; **Dave Chapman**, Norfolk field office primary; **Mary Lou Hoffert**; Norfolk field office alternate; **John Luttrell**, St. Juliens Creek, Va.; **Reggie Gambrell**, Little Creek, Va.; **Steve Graham**, Yorktown, Va.; **Yiu Jeung**, Jacksonville, Fla.; **Dave Wilson**, Mayport, Fla.; **Richard Solomon**, Pensacola, Fla.; and **Ray Karpinski**, Corpus Christi, Texas.

If you don't see your location on the list above, don't panic. We keep your needs in mind through the department for smaller sites and offices.

Outlook Web Access

The NMCI Contracting Officer recently modified the NMCI contract to add another service called Outlook Web Access, or OWA. Originally, it was a separately priced item; however, a more recent modification has made this service a part of every seat or account ordered under NMCI.

This is a limited service, but it might just be the thing you need. Once you have your NMCI account (either as a part of a seat ordered under the contract or a separate, extra account, you will be able to reach your NMCI mail account over the Internet from any networked location, not just from an NMCI seat. This makes staying in touch that much easier, but you should be aware of the limitations of this service. Since it delivers your OUTLOOK mail over the web, it acts a lot differently than your desktop Outlook client.

If you want to get the feel of what OWA on NMCI might look like today, then try this:

Open your web browser and surf to https://chsweb mail.spawar.navy.mil. Don't forget the 's' on https or you will be reminded to add it. At the login panel, enter your corporate domain/userid and password. Type just your userid in the page that follows and press Enter.

What you will see is a web-delivered version of your mailbox. After a bit of study, you will discover that you can do most of your basic mail-related tasks in this version, with a few limitations:

Sorting mail messages by sender or subject is possible, but more time consuming. You have to page through them a screenful at a time since typing the first letter of the item does not automatically jump to the first instance.

The web page doesn't automatically refresh (you won't see new messages unless you manually refresh the screen); the Address Book works a bit differently; Public Folders aren't available in this configuration, and calendering is limited to your own calendar. You can't open another user or resource calendar (if you have permission) like you can in Outlook; and legacy applications access (e.g., BSA, Formflow) are not a part of Outlook Web Access

We believe that Outlook Web Access will be a valuable adjunct to your NMCI seat, allowing you to check your mail while on the road, while at a Customer site, or from home so long as you can provide the network connection and a web browser with strong (128 bit) encryption and understand the limitations of the service.

NMCI Desktop Assessment and Validation Team starts in Charleston March 4

Based on best practices pioneered by Debbie Hasty for the desktop validation being conducted in the National Capitol Region, we will ask each branch, division or staff code to appoint an "expediter" to assist the ISF desktop validation team when they arrive in your area to validate the current desktop.

The team should already have the following information when they arrive: Senior Flag Officers/Senior Executive Service users; a list of the designated points of contact; a list of users that will be transitioned to NMCI; electronic copies of building floor plans; a POC List; and the current seat order and UIC.

The branch level "expediter" should be prepared to help the AVT team leader: Locate the user's cubicle or office; have a list of anyone out of the office (i.e., meetings, shift workers, sick, on TDY, or vacation) for follow up; reservists; vacant seats (pending a new hire, for example); visitor seats; foreign nationals; a list of remote users (dial-in users in the commuting area); special needs users; and location of classified seats.

The user or expediter will need to help the validation team identify external peripherals the user intends to retain (must be Windows 2000 compatible) and special needs.

The team may also ask about the following additional information to get an appreciation for training requirements: Current Operating System; make and version of the E-Mail client; make and version of the office productivity suite.
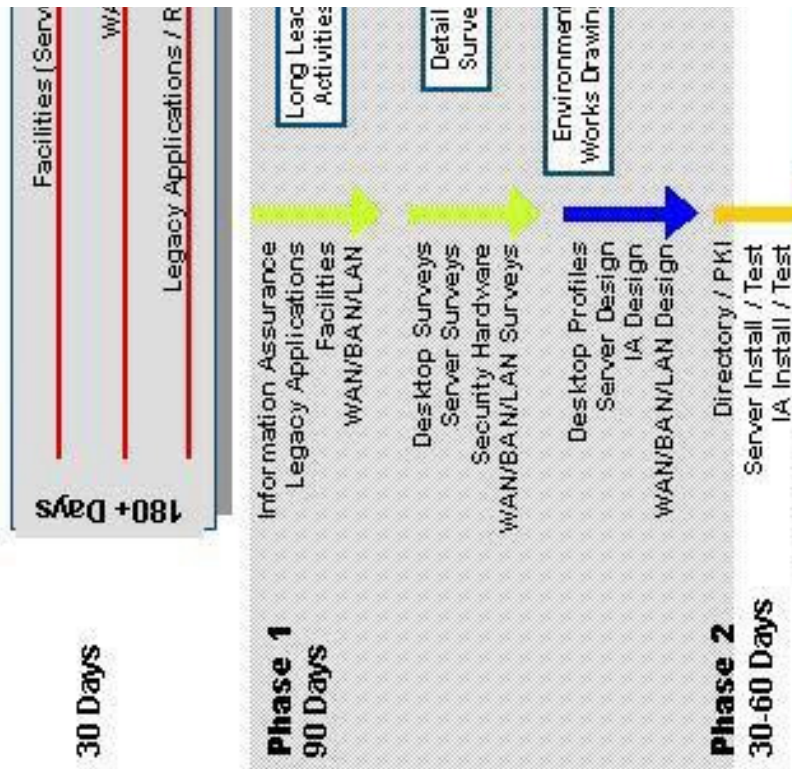
In the meantime, the team will insert an application called BELARC that will catalog the names of the applications currently running on your workstation or laptop. It will not copy any data or sensitive information from your computer. With adequate preparation, the desktop validation is fairly non-intrusive and should take no more than 15 minutes.

What are Legacy applications, why do I need to identify them, and what do I need to provide?

Legacy applications, servers, and systems were declared to SPAWAR headquarters and to EDS on Feb. 15. All applications using the NMCI infrastructure must be assessed by EDS if implemented on the NMCI desktop or servers. We must identify all applications that we currently have licenses for and that we plan to use on our NMCI workstations, including NMCI developer workstations. We must identify all applications running on application servers, web servers, and on workstations sharing information with other workstations, such as databases. Each application identified must include a Request for Service (RFS) form that

NMCI

Facilities (Serv...
WA...
Legacy Applications / R...

180+ Days

30 Days

Phase 1
90 Days

Long Lead
Activities

Information Assurance
Legacy Applications
Facilities
WAN/BAN/LAN

Detail
Surve...

Desktop Surveys
Server Surveys
Security Hardware
WAN/BAN/LAN Surveys

Environment...
Works Drawin...

Desktop Profiles
Server Design
IA Design
WAN/BAN/LAN Design

Phase 2
30-60 Days

Directory / PKI
Server Install / Test
IA Install / Test

What equipment am I supposed to turn in?

Because our folks need to clearly understand the CNO Rules of Engagement for NMCI regarding equipment turn in during the seat assessments (visits), here is a summary from the CNO's message dated July 6, 2001.

The following addresses the Assessment and Validation Teams that will go through our spaces to understand our current infrastructure. The team is charged to discover this in order to transform the existing infrastructure into a network service capable of supporting NMCI service requirements, or SLAs. These assessments include current desktops.

Quote from CNO Rules of Engagement:

3. EDS will conduct detailed site surveys of all existing IT infrastructure used to deliver services that will be replaced by NMCI and develop a detailed equipment inventory. Individual users do not have the option to choose which equipment is transferred to EDS, except where personally-owned equipment is concerned. Review and concurrence on this inventory will be sought from activity contract technical representatives (CTRs) prior to transition. Issues requiring resolution will be brought to the CTR. EDS is responsible for disposition of equipment used for NMCI-like service delivery after AOR; the government is responsible for disposition of equipment retained by the DoN. Outdated equipment that is not being used to deliver NMCI-like services will not transfer to EDS and should not be substituted for existing equipment in use. To reiterate: existing equipment should not be swapped with old equipment prior to, or after, AOR.

The information below provides official guidance for transferring equipment to NMCI. Notice that there are few specific exceptions for non-Navy equipment.

5. The following additional guidelines apply to desktops and laptops in implementation of NMCI desktop ownership transition:

■ Employee without an existing computer: order an NMCI seat.

■ Employee with multiple computers (WS, laptop) attached to the network: turn in all computers used for NMCI like services and order an appropriate NMCI seat.

■ Employee with multiple computers (WS, laptop) one attached and one not attached to the network: turn in all computers and order an appropriate seat.

■ Employee with PC funded by another DoN activity: turn in and order NMCI seat if network services are required.

■ Employee with PC funded by another DoD activity: based on plant property ownership. If ownership reverts to another agency, the asset does not transfer to EDS. If the asset is now considered DoN property, ownership transitions to EDS. In the latter case, an NMCI seat should be ordered if network services are required.

■ Employee with PC funded by a non-DoD activity: based on plant property ownership. If ownership reverts to another organization, the asset does not transfer to EDS. If the asset is now considered DoN property, ownership transitions to EDS. In the latter case, an NMCI seat should be ordered if network services are required.

■ Employee with personally owned IT equipment will not currently be allowed to attach that equipment to the NMCI. Negotiations are underway with the isf that would allow personal equipment, modified with an ISF software package, to have authorized access to the NMCI.

■ Classroom computers (desktop and servers): if services used are not "NMCI-like" and are individual stand-alone type systems or networks, ownership does not transfer to EDS. These assets may not be attached to the NMCI network except through a CLIN 32 external connection.

■ Computer pool assets: laptops used for traveling presentations or desktops used for deploying squadrons, if not "NMCI-like" and if they comprise individual stand-alone type systems, ownership does not transfer to EDS. These assets may not be attached to the NMCI network except when a hybrid seat is ordered and the laptop is used as government provided hardware.

Legacy applications
Continued from page 11

includes the manufacturer name of the application, contact information for the requestor, installation instructions, and test procedures. The package must also include a copy of the media unless the software has been submitted to the ISF test lab by another NMCI customer. Applications that are identified for installation on an NMCI developer seat will not require media copy; however, they will require an RFS.

All Government-Off-The-Shelf (GOTS) applications will require special security approvals in addition to the RFS and media. Examples of GOTS applications include those developed specifically for a customer or purpose and Commercial-Off-The-Shelf (COTS) applications modified for a customer or purpose, such as a Microsoft Access database.

Applications not identified and provided to the ISF lab prior to April 1, 2002, may not be tested, nor provided, on your workstation without a monetary penalty. The penalty may include both costs for testing and a monthly charge to having the application reside on your workstation.

At the time of installation of the user's rationalized and certified legacy applications, the Information Strike Force will ask for proof of license before proceeding with the install. If you cannot produce a license for applications not provided by the corporation, NMCI will not install the software.

DFAS Expands Web-based Financial Services for DoD Personnel

By Gerry J. Gilmore
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1, 2002 — DoD civilian employees can access even more financial information services through an improved Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) Internet site.

Upgrades made in December 2001 to the agency's computerized Employee/Member Self-Service system now allow DoD civilians to make online changes to their state tax withholding; to start, change and stop U.S. Savings Bond purchases; and to view and print 2001 W-2 forms, according to Jim Pitt, deputy director of DFAS electronic commerce, military and civilian pay services.

"We want to empower our military and civilian employees to have greater control over their payroll records," Pitt explained, adding that DFAS officials anticipate that military members will have online access to their W-2s next year.

Using the self-service Web site, Pitt noted, is a more efficient way of doing business that's more accurate, saves paper and time, and reduces redundancy. Instead of having administrative specialists re-input employee-provided information, employees can use the system to enter their data themselves, he said.

Another new DFAS self-service Web link, Travel Advice of Payment, allows military and civilian personnel to view and print their paid travel vouchers online, Pitt noted. At first, only payments made after Oct. 2, 2001, by the agency's Cleveland, Indianapolis and Columbus, Ohio, centers will be available. Other payment locations will be made available soon.

Military members and civilians can also use the Web site, http://www.dfas.mil/emss/, to stop the mailing of their Leave and Earnings Statements, Pitt said. Customers now, he noted, can simply print the statements that have been posted online.

Pitt said the DFAS Web site offered a variety of services to military and civilian personnel even before the December upgrades. They've been able to access, view and print their electronic Leave and Earnings Statements; change federal tax withholding; and change direct deposit information.

Civilians can also use the Web site to file address changes and start, stop, or change allotments, he added.

DFAS serves roughly 5.5 million active duty and reserve military, retired military, annuitants (such as widows) and DoD civilians, Pitt remarked.

The improved Web site, he noted, greatly enhances service for those customers. "It is a user-friendly site and offers things that people have been asking for. We've had a lot of positive feedback from our customers," he concluded.

To access the Employee/Member Self-Service system, customers need a custom personal identification number that can be obtained by calling the system Customer Support Unit at 1-800-390-2348.

Message from the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C., dated Jan. 29, 2002

Subject: African American History Month, February 2002

February 2002 marks the 76th annual observance of African American history month. Its purpose is to educate Americans about African American history and contributions African Americans have made to our nation. This year's national theme adopted by the Department of Defense is "The African American legacy: Contributions and Service in America's defense." This theme reflects the past struggles made by those men and women who risked and often gave their lives in the cause of freedom. In addition it reminds us of the efforts and sacrifices made by the more than 70,000 African American men and women who serve in the United States Navy today.

Throughout our history, we have witnessed the rich heritage of African Americans in the United States Navy. Our heroes of the past include ENS Jesse Leroy Brown, the first African American naval aviator who was posthumously awarded the distinguished flying cross for his Korean war combat service; chief gunner's mate John Henry "Dick" Turpin, the first African American chief petty officer; Harriet Ida Pickens and Frances Wills, the first African American female naval officers commissioned through the WAVES program; and mess attendant first class Leonard Roy Harmon, posthumously awarded the Navy cross for his heroism during the naval battle of Guadacanal and the first African American to have a Navy ship named after him, *USS Harmon*. This past June, Rear Admiral David L. Brewer III was the featured guest speaker in the christening of the *USS Mason* (DDG 87). Its namesake, *USS Mason* (DE 529) proudly served during the racially turbulent WW II era. It was the first crew to be composed mostly of African American sailors.

Like the heroes of our past, many African American men and women continue to be heroes today. Currently Rear Admiral Anthony L. Winns serves as commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, intricately involved in Operation Enduring Freedom. Sailors such as HT1(SW) Michael Hayes and HM3 Tayinikia Campbell responded valiantly during the terrorist attack on the *USS Cole*. SK2 Sean Taitt was awarded the Purple Heart as he stood in the line of fire in the *Cole* attack. Thousands of unnamed heroes continue to serve proudly in our Navy, including many of you who are supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

The United States Executive Branch Code of Ethics

Principles of Ethical Conduct for Government Officials and Employees

1. Public service is a public trust, requiring employees to place loyalty to the Constitution, the laws and ethical principles above private gain.

2. Employees shall not hold financial interests that conflict with the conscientious performance of duty.

3. Employees shall not engage in financial transactions using nonpublic Government information or allow the improper use of such information to further any private interest.

4. An employee shall not, except as permitted by subpart B of this part, solicit or accept any gift or other item of monetary value from any person or entity seeking official action from, doing business with, or conducting activities regulated by the employee's agency, or whose interests may be substantially affected by the performance or nonperformance of the employee's duties.

5. Employees shall put forth honest effort in the performance of their duties.

6. Employees shall not knowingly make unauthorized commitments or promises of any kind purporting to bind the Government.

7. Employees shall not use public office for private gain.

8. Employees shall act impartially and not give preferential treatment to any private organization or individual.

9. Employees shall protect and conserve Federal property and shall not use it for other than authorized activities.

10. Employees shall not engage in outside employment or activities, including seeking or negotiating for employment, that conflict with official Government duties and responsibilities.

11. Employees shall disclose waste, fraud, abuse, and corruption to appropriate authorities.

12. Employees shall satisfy in good faith their obligations as citizens, including all just financial obligations, especially those — such as Federal, State, or local taxes — that are imposed by law.

13. Employees shall adhere to all laws and regulations that provide equal opportunity for all Americans regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, or handicap.

14. Employees shall endeavor to avoid any actions creating the appearance that they are violating the law or the ethical standards set forth in this part. Whether particular circumstances create an appearance that the law or these standards have been violated shall be determined from the perspective of a reasonable person with knowledge of the relevant facts.

Legal briefs

Hassell earns recognition from S.C. State Board of Education

Each year, the South Carolina State Board of Education honors individuals, civic organizations, and school improvement councils for significant volunteer contributions to schools. **Marsha Hassell**, our public affairs officer, received this year's State Board of Education Volunteer Award for her volunteer service during the 2000-2001 school year.

Marsha received a certificate of appreciation signed by Inez Tanenbaum, State Superintendent of Education, and Gregory Killian, chair of the State Board of Education.

Terry Cash, volunteer/business education coordinator, said, "I too offer a hearty 'thank you' for your significant contributions of time, talent, and resources to benefit the children of your community. Certainly, your efforts will have an impact for years to come."

Hanahan Middle Schoolers 'shadow' on Groundhog Day

The "Shadows" gathered for a group photo in the lobby of the main engineering center before going to their respective job sites of SSC Charleston workers.

Below: Rondi Akers (J0A7), event coordinator, explains to her *shadow*, Chelsea Sineath, some of the duties and responsibilities that go into planning a command event, such as the ATC ribbon cutting ceremony.

The SSC Charleston mentors and their shadows were:

Henry Pinner, with 7th grader Logan Tyler; **Kathy Adams**, with 6th grader Milissa Padgett; **Rondi Akers**, with 8th grader Chelsea Sineath; **Joanne Banks**, with 8th grader Sara Hightower; **Theresa Breaux**, with 8th grader Anna Jackson; **Jim Criddle**, with 7th grader Bud Cook; **Richard Daehler-Wilking**, with 8th grader Matt Richert; **Charlie McDaniel**, with 7th grader Arian Rollerson; **Nina Burgsteiner**, with 6th grader Travis Jackson; **Erick Fry**, with 8th grader Von Felkel; **Hazel Grant**, with 7th grader Missy Stephens; **Mariliene Baker**, with 7th grader Ashley Colson; **Denise Hanna**, with 6th grader Jordon McElroy; **Julie Phillips**, with 8th grader Jamie Shipman; **Mark Leyde**, with 7th grader Timothy Gainous; **Claudia Mazyck**, with 6th grader Megan Bessinger; **Jim Ellicott**, with 6th grader Payton Wanstreet; **Tom Glaab**, with 7th grader Chad Davis; **Will Gex**, with 6th grader Al Hooper; **John Peterson**, with 8th grader Taylor Richardson; **Phil Charles**, with 6th grader Thomas Flood; **John Rutledge**, with 8th grader Andrew Timmerman; **Marquis Sailor**, with 7th grader Allison Whitney; **Donald Sallee**, with 8th grader Katelyn Plavney; **Bill Sanders**, with 7th grader Lauren Benner; **Gary Scott**, with 6th grader Tiffany Smeilus; **Jack Sherwood**, with 7th grader Alexia Booker; **Lt.Cmdr. Sally Van Horn**, with 6th grader Angela Nick; **Terry Watkins**, with 7th grader Tyler Legette; and **Dan Williams**, with 8th grader Robbie Powell.

Thanks to everyone who cared enough to make time in your busy schedules to share your work experiences with a child. You really do make a difference.

Gregg Middle School students begin 'mentoring' program

SSC Charleston's annual mentoring program with Gregg Middle School got a late start this year due to the tragic events of Sept. 11. The 7th and 8th grade students were quite excited when they were finally allowed on base Jan. 30 to meet their mentors and to find out what it's like to work in a place that is so closely connected to Operation Enduring Freedom and Homeland Defense.

The students will meet with their assigned mentors once a month during this school year. With the help of their mentors, the students are required to develop and present a briefing detailing their individual experiences while *working* at SSC Charleston.

Gregg Middle School students and SSC Charleston Mentors: (kneeling l-r) Christine Kramer, Keely Crosby, Aaron Stubbs, Ashlee Baker, Kaitlen Hartel, Chava Gilliard, and Brittany Geddis; (stading l-r) Leslie Gray (J511), Amanda Patterson (J752), Jarryd Ashby, Linda Doss (J511), Jessica Sheets, Carol Venning (J0PA), Haston Yarborough, Kyle Wylie, Chantelle Sauls, Marquis Sailor (J511), Megan Borkowski, Spencer McClellan, Michael Lindamood (J0L3), bus driver Rhonda, and Janet Smyth (J714).

Since The Chronicle editor (Lynda Silvers) is mentoring three students — Ashlee Baker, Chantelle Sauls, and Christine Kramer — the photos here show how these three students spent their time learning about SSC Charleston's capabilities.

Far right photo: Lynda shows Ashlee (seated), Chantelle, and Christine how to do a PowerPoint presentation, which they will deliver at the end of this year's mentoring session.

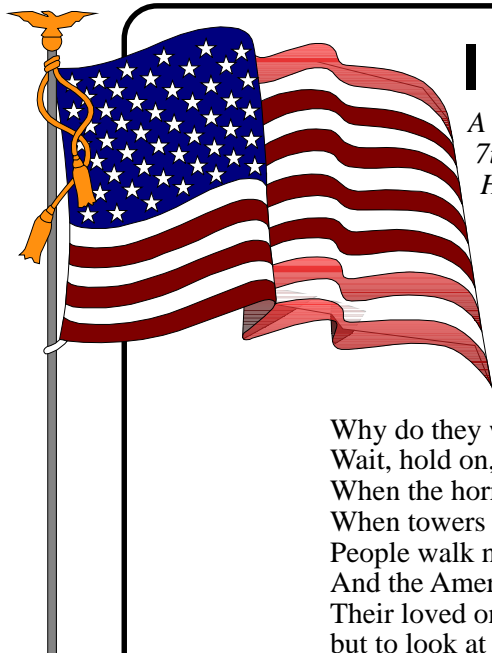**Below: Tom Glaab (J613), showed the students some of SSC Charleston's interesting capabilities in the command lab.**

Below: Dennis Gette (J61B) demonstrates the "tent" capabilities and modeling and simulation.

Left: Michelle DeForest (J311) guided a tour through the new ATC facility and explained the functions in the ATC tower.

I hold in my hand...

A Poem by Marina Chavez
7th Grade Student
Hanahan Middle School

I hold in my hand the world today.
Look at this chaos,
When will it go away?
I would rather be dead than turn my head away
From this world that is crying for help.
Why do they cry?
Why do they want to shout?
Wait, hold on, go to the date September 11, 2001
When the horror happened on the new millenium.
When towers one and two came crashing down.
People walk now with their heads high,
And the American flag high in the sky.
Their loved ones are gone, and there's nothing to do,
but to look at the colors red, white and blue.
Are these the colors for you?

Lowcountry AFCEA has big plans for 2002

By Mary Menke

The S.C. Lowcountry Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association (AFCEA) completed 2001 with many accomplishments, and has a dynamic 2002 agenda.

This chapter is dedicated to improving math, science and technology education in the Charleston area through scholarship programs for graduating high school seniors and Trident Technical College students, the Math and Science Teachers (MaST) education program, participation as judges in the annual Lowcountry Science Fair, and the annual award of Science Teaching Tools.

This year's MaST event (one of the chapter's most ambitious efforts) will be held June 10-14 at SSC Charleston's Cooper River Landing Conference Center. This program, which is co-sponsored by SSC Charleston, brings together math, science and technology teachers at the middle and high school level. Through tours and guest speakers, the teachers learn how knowledge learned in school is actually used in the work environment. Various technologies that reflect the material taught in classrooms are presented to the teachers who then work in groups to develop their curriculum. Teachers receive a professional development credit from The Citadel's Graduate School of Professional Studies. This year's program will include personal computer basics, satellite communications, video teleconferencing, and Web page design.

An ongoing Lowcountry Chapter venture is the Technology Leadership Forum, which serves as a business liaison in various technical areas for individuals, as well as community, state and federal activities. Another chapter initiative is the Industry Information Forum — last year, SSC Charleston's William Paggi provided contracting information.

The chapter awarded $15,000 in scholarships and awards to students and teachers last year — five $2,500 scholarships to high school students entering college, $1,500 to a Trident Technical College student majoring in computer science, and $1,000 to the Cainhoy Middle School science program for much-needed school supplies.

The monthly luncheon meeting is the chapter's mainstay, providing networking and information exchange opportunities. Each month, there's a different speaker — Rear Adm. Anthony Lengerich, SSC Charleston's first commanding officer, was the first guest speaker in 2002. Previous speakers included: SSC Charleston's commanding officer, Capt. Nancy Deitch; Barbara Keller from DISA; Col. Terry G. Pricer, Air Force commander, Joint Interoperability Test Command, Fort Huachuca, Arizona; SPAWAR Command director Rear Adm. David Antanitus, Installation and Logistics (SPAWAR 04); and Ed Abell, Virginia Advanced Shipbuilding Carrier Integration Center.

Chapter officers for 2002 are: Jim Hoffman (CSSI Inc. and former SSC Charleston commanding officer), president; Lauren Dennis (Eagan McAllister Associates Inc.), first vice president; Frank Courtney (TDS Inc.), second vice president; Floyd McLaurin, treasurer; and Joe Bracewell (Eagan McAllister Associates Inc.), secretary. Our long-range plans include a technical exposition in early 2003.

Complete information on the Lowcountry chapter can be found at www.afcealowcountry.com.

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Mandy Taylor
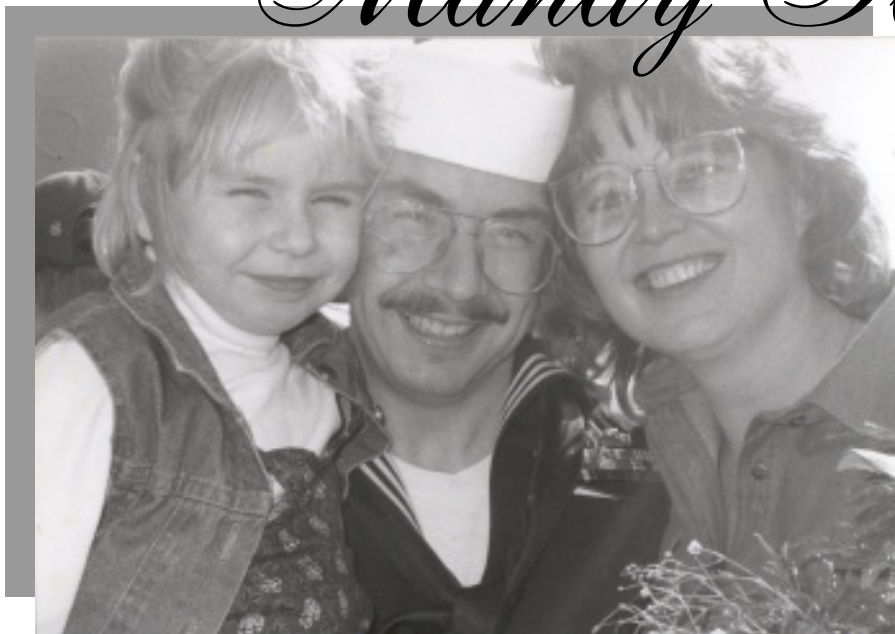
Mandy had this undated photograph of herself with husband Jeff, and daughter Maegan in her office.

Amanda Taylor, an administrative specialist in the Wideband SATCOM Branch (J542) in our Portsmouth, Va., office, passed away Jan. 17 following a brief illness. She was only 40 years old, and leaves her 12-year old daughter Maegan and husband Jeff.

Mandy, as she was known by friends and coworkers, was *"once an angel on earth to those who knew her, now she is an angel in Heavem, just where she belongs,"* said her sister Susan Larson. *"She was an incredible woman with a magnetic personality and many personal strengths. She will be forever missed, but fondly remembered by all whose path she crossed."*

By Ray Chappell and Sandra Simms

Mandy began work for SSC Charleston's Norfolk, Va., office in June 1997. She provided financial management support to the Wideband SATCOM Branch (J542). Her energy, ambition and passion soon made her an invaluable asset to all she worked with. Her goal to become *government* was reached (with a big smile and much appreciation) in October 2000.

Mandy's love for the Navy was evident in her work. She loved what she did, and believed in it with every ounce of herself. She was always anxious to learn more and do more. One of the most incredible things about Mandy was that she took her work to heart and put so much of herself into not only the work, but also the people she worked with. **Ava Brown** recalls that she would always tell people going on travel to "be safe" and was concerned until they returned to the office. **Bill Baber** used to come down for a morning visit and talk to Mandy about Myrtle Beach vacations and other fun stuff. These visits from Bill, as well as others, put a smile on Mandy's face and their talks about her hometown brought back lots of fond memories about a place she loved with all her heart. She and Jeff recently purchased property in Myrtle Beach and she was looking forward to living there some day. It was not unusual to find Mandy at her desk long after others had gone home, trying to keep up with the latest contracts that needed to be awarded, or to meet other work related deadlines. Then there were the Christmas Parties. She dearly loved them, and the more people she could entice to go, the better.

I think the most awesome thing I ever witnessed about Mandy's work was the way she manipulated the accounting system, truly an amazing thing to watch. Above all, Mandy was a team player in every sense of the word. And what a team she supported — about 30 people — and she did her best to support each of them in ways that made each feel equally important. All who worked with Mandy agree that she could be trusted implicitly. Mandy's values, beliefs, and good personality, were as much a part of her work life and working relationships with people as they were in personal relationships. She took care of the government's money as if it were her own, and she made those she supported tow the line when it came to those precious dollars, and all respected her for it (even if they got frustrated with her toughness from time to time). We could go on and on about her accomplishments in the 4.5 years that we worked with her. Her special ways can never be replaced and she will remain with all who had the pleasure to work with her forever.

Coworkers eulogize:

Ray Chappell: "Mandy really loved her work, and as crazy as this might sound, actually enjoyed crunching financial numbers and responding to headquarter's data calls. Mandy was an exceptional individual, very caring, and always performed beyond the call of duty. There are not enough words to describe Mandy and what she meant to all of us. Mandy was both friend and colleague to many of us and will be sorely missed. Please keep her family in your prayers."

Linda Barnes: "Mandy was the most courteous person

I have ever met. She was a real lady through and through and never failed to say please or thank you. The thing I remember most and was so impressed with (because it sounds so genteel) is that she called every one Miss. She called me Miss Linda and Virginia Miss Virginia. We will all miss her enthusiastic manner and bright smile. She was like a ray of sunshine any time she came to see us."

Virginia Watson: "Mandy was a pleasure to work with. She was extremely professional and had a smile that would light up the office when she came in. She loved her family and was truly interested in the families of her coworkers. Mandy will be deeply missed by all of us who were fortunate enough to have known her."

Karen Brewer: "I'm so sorry to hear about Mandy. Everyday I followed her progress and prayed for her recovery. It's true ... she's been an angel on Earth and will continue her good will through helping others; what a special gift! Love to her in Heaven and to her family here."

Susan Luttrell: "I wish I had known Mandy better, but in the short time I did, and the few times I talked with her, she left a very positive impact on my life. What a pleasant person to have had the privilege to know. She is still with us in our memories and the way she has touched each of us. Most people don't realize the absolutely wonderful way she will touch the lives of the recipients of her organs, and the lives of the recipient's families. I want to strive to be more like her!"

Colleen Reilly: "Amanda Taylor, an awesome person, a wonderful friend and a dedicated coworker whom I will miss and remember always."

Ava Brown: "Mandy was a mentor, a friend and a co-worker who I will always hold close to my heart."

Sandy Simms: "Each and every person who has had the honor of calling Mandy a "friend" will agree that it was not long enough. For most of us we were only her friend for a mere few years but I think all of her friends would also agree that the relationships we shared with her made us feel that we knew her all our lives."

Jackie Oltmann: "I met Mandy a little over five years ago. At that time she was working as a contractor supporting our code 542 in Norfolk. From the first time I talked to her until the last time I talked to her, she never changed. She was always there, doing her best and more. Over the years, Mandy became more than a coworker, she became a very special friend to me. She never failed to ask how I was doing and always asked about my family. For those of us who were fortunate enough to have crossed paths with Mandy, her smile and goodness will always hold a special place in our hearts."

Twila Williams: "There are not enough words to express the loss we feel for Mandy. She touched everyone she ever met. Mandy always knew from just a hello if you were having a good or bad day. She took care of so many things at one time and still had time to ask about my children. She was so dedicated to her family, friends, and coworkers. Mandy always had a smile and positive thoughts for everyone. I feel very fortunate to have known Mandy as a coworker and a true friend. There are very few people who touch our lives like Mandy. She was a true inspiration to all of us, and will always be in our hearts."

Our deepest sympathy to...

the family, friends, and former coworkers of SSC Charleston retiree **Benjamin L. Massey**.

Ben passed away Dec. 28, 2001, at his residence in Virginia. He was 68. Born in Greensville County, Va., Ben graduated from Virginia Tech in 1958 with a degree in electrical engineering. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army and worked for 18 years with the Newport News Shipyard in the Submarine Department. He retired again after 21 years with SSC Charleston where he worked in naval engineering and communications.

Ben is survived by his stepdaughters, Carla Cates Johnson of Burlington, Va., and Patrice Lamm of Youngsville, N.C.; a stepson, Larry K. Starling of Mebane, Va.; four grandchildren; a sister, Joan Culbertson of Virginia Beach; and an aunt, Inez Massey of Gaston, N.C.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Della Bernice Testerman Massey on Nov. 22, 2001; his mother, Anna Belle Powell Massey; and his father, Lewis Calvin Massey.

We also extend our heartfelt sympathy to **Bee Lindfors** in the Fleet Site Support Branch (J632). Bee's husband John passed away Oct 10. He was a retired marine machisist with the Charleston Naval Shipyard. Bee and John have three daughters, Marie Peikert of Riverside, Calif., Victoria Lindfors of Mt. Pleasant, Elizabeth Lindfors of N. Charleston, and Margaret Berg of Albuquerque, N.M.; and a son Christopher Lindfors of Charleston.

Bee says, "*Thank you, SPAWAR family, for your kind words, cards, and prayers following John's long bout with lung cancer and his death on Oct. 10. Your generous kindness of donated leave allowed me the time I needed to stay with him his last two months, and is deeply appreciated — I am totally overwhelmed by this action. These words seem so inadequate to truly express the gratitude I feel right now to you all for this most unselfish gift.*"

Daylight Saving Time begins April 7

Daylight Saving Time begins for most of the United States at 2 a.m. on the first Sunday in April (7th). Time reverts to standard time at 2 a.m. on the last Sunday of October (27th). In the **European Union**, it starts at 1 a.m. the last Sunday in March (31st), and ends the last Sunday in October (27th).

Spring forward, Fall back

During DST, clocks are turned forward an hour, effectively moving an hour of daylight from the morning to the evening.

2002
...and beyond!